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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/23/08

SPONSOR Komadina LAST UPDATED HB

SHORT TITLE Advertise New Mexico Wild Horses SB 166

ANALYST Earnest

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$50.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Tourism Department

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 166 appropriates \$50 thousand from the general fund to the Tourism Department to advertise the presence of wild horses in New Mexico.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$50 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2009 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Tourism Department received an appropriation of \$20 thousand in the 2007 session to promote wild horse tourism.

According to a publication of the Wild Horse Observers Association, there are about 350 to 400 wild horses in New Mexico. The managed wild horse population on the island of Assateague Island and the annual swim to Chincoteague, VA, attracts several tourists.

BE/bb